Cotton Monopoly Scheme of Maharashtra

313. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Cotton Monopoly Scheme of Maharashtra is running at a loss;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the reasons for which the Central Government are not adopting a scheme nation-wide in order to give protection to the cotton growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is reported that the Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers' Marketing Federation are purchasing cotton from the farmers at guaranteed prices which are unrelated to the price situation prevailing in the country.

(c) Government is already protecting the interests of cotton growers by directing the Cotton Corporation of India to purchase cotton at minimum support prices whenever the cotton prices tend to fall below the minimum support prices. It is not necessary to adopt Maharashtra Scheme throughout the country as the losses are likely to be more.

Reliance Fraud Case

314. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the officials involved in Reliance fraud case;

(b) what sort of irregularities by the management of Reliance Textile Industries have been observed by Government; and

(c) the manner in which the Reliance Textile Industries acquired prior knowledge of a change in Government's policy restricting imports of PTA and had opened letters of credit to prompt the new policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY): (a) to (c) It is presumed that the Hon'ble Member is referring to the case concerning opening of letters of credit by several banks for import of PTA by Reliance Textile Industries Ltd. in the last week of May 1986. The matter is still under investigation by CBI.

Fresh proposals to solve ethnic problem in Sri Lanka

315. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Sri Lanka has submitted fresh proposals for the solution of the ethnic problem;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Tamil groups have been to India for discussion on the proposals; and

(c) if so, what are the improvements suggested vis-a-vis earlier proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) The Govt. of Sri Lanka have presented new formulations and clarifications.

(b) and (c) The Sri Lankan proposals were handed over to the Tamil groups for their careful consideration at the end of June, 1986. A TULF delegation is currently holding talks with the Sri Lankan Government in Colombo. The outcome of these talks is awaited.

Prosecutions launched by the Income Tax Department in Ludhiana

316. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of prosecutions launched by the Income Tax Dpartment for failure by the assessees at Ludhiana